TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

A32752

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 28, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 23 totaled 346,837, down 3.1 percent from the comparable week of 1988 but 1.0 percent above the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 3.1 percent in the West and 3.0 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, loadings of coal were up 2,543 cars (2.0 percent). Grain was off by 5,918 cars (19.4 percent). Loadings of crushed stone, gravel and sand were down 1,798 cars (9.3 percent), and motor vehicles and equipment loadings fell 1,440 cars (6.9 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 38 weeks of 1989 totaled 12,630,921, down 1.0 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 123,371 trailers and/or containers for the week ended September 23, up 1.8 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 38 weeks of 1989 was 4,286,792 trailers and/or containers, 3.0 percent above the comparable 1988 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended September 23 totaled 19.8 billion, 2.5 percent below the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 38 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 725.4 billion ton-miles, down 0.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 23, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 23, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	24,522	30,440	-19.4 %	25,712	-4.6 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,600	1,812	-11.7	1,353	18.3
Metallic Ores	19,967	20,691	-3.5	20,936	-4.6
Coal	132,353	129,810	2.0	130,367	1.5
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	17,580	19,378	-9.3	18,232	-3.6
Nonmetallic Minerals	11,866	11,048	7.4	9,545	24.3
Grain Mill Products	10,005	10,527	-5.0	9,909	1.0
Food & Kindred Products	8,756	8,989	-2.6	8,411	4.1
Primary Forest Products	9,399	9,860	-4.7	9,441	-.4
Lumber & Wood Products	6,731	7,465	-9.8	6,357	5.9
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	9,946	10,612	-6.3	10,198	-2.5
Chemicals	27,472	26,894	2.1	26,873	2.2
Petroleum Products	5,095	4,792	6.3	5,365	-5.0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	11,213	10,990	2.0	11,462	-2.2
Coke	5,772	5,647	2.2	5,546	4.1
Metals & Products	9,444	10,837	-12.9	9,235	2.3
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	19,453	20,893	-6.9	18,041	7.8
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,860	9,311	-4.8	8,936	-.9
All Other Carloads	6,803	7,831	-13.1	7,489	-9.2
Total	346,837	357,827	-3.1 %	343,408	1.0 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 23, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 38 WEEKS ENDING SEPTEMBER 23, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	346,837	357,827	-3.1 %	12,630,921	12,760,988	-1.0 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	72,636	72,280	.5	2,482,829	2,510,202	-1.1
Containers	50,735	48,878	3.8	1,803,963	1,649,939	9.3
Total	123,371	121,158	1.8	4,286,792	4,160,141	3.0
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	19.8	20.3	-2.5 %	725.4	726.1	-.1 %

#

AARt - 092789